California GARDEN

10c

February-March 1935

LAGUNA DE LAS FLORES, ONE OF THE BEAUTY SPOTS OF THE CALIFORNIA PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION, OPENING MAY 29 IN BALBOA PARK.

Stray Thoughts
By Peter D. Barnhart

Reflections
By Ruth R. Nelson

Our Native Ceanothus
By K. O. Sessions

The Magazine . . .

"California Garden"

A Practical Local Guide published monthly
for more than 20 years
Subscription $1.00 per year

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, in its 24th year of continuous activities.
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THE ALOE AND AGAVE GARDEN

Balboa Park, San Diego

When Miss Sessions first talked of having an annex to this garden there was nothing elaborate about her plans, but with the help of the SERA a way opened whereby the garden was brought to a greater development than at first was anticipated.

Numerous loads of dirt were used, also many of crushed hard-pan for walks, and hard-pan rocks for edging of the beds. Water pipes have been installed, drains completed and rustic benches are being made. Hundreds of plants and thousands of Mesembryanthemum cuttings were planted. So the work has progressed and now that the aloe and agave garden is practically completed the dream of the San Diego Floral Association will soon be a beautiful realization.

Much praise should be given to Miss K. O. Sessions for her generosity in time and plants. Without her enthusiastic spirit this garden would never have been a reality.

There are others who deserve thanks and credit for making this garden a success. Mr. John G. Morley, superintendent of parks; Frank Taylor, general foreman, park department; Fred Bode, foreman Exposition planting, also his assistant, Richard James; Olaf Cole and James Yotsey, foreman of the SERA equipment. The donators of plants and rocks, and all the men even to the humblest workman who took joy in the work should come in for their full share. It certainly has been a pleasure for me to work on this project, having had the co-operation of all those previously mentioned.

CHAUNCY IRGENS JERABEK,

REPORT OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Wandering through the quaint roads and streets of London through the eyes of a scholarly gentleman of the old school was the privilege of the large group of Floral Association members who heard George W. Marston speak at the February meeting. After his humorous description of his visit in the great city that left one with the knowledge that beneath the story was the ever present fact that Mr. Marston was giving us a glimpse of the human elements that went into the making of the history of the city, he approached the subject of English gardens. Speaking of the large beechwood forests and the many squares in the city he led us to the large estates, where he and his family were guests on different occasions. Insisting that his knowledge of flowers and plants was mostly that of an appreciative eye, he gave us inspiring pictures of the dignity and completeness of the gardens of England. Climatic conditions undoubtedly assisted in the velvety texture of the grass and the riotous blooms of the border flowers, but the painstaking, patient characteristics of the English people seemed to be expressed in their gardens.

Reports on the progress of the new project, that of the establishment of a native plant area in Balboa Park, was made by Mr. R.S. Hoyt. Mr. C. I. Jerabek, who has accepted the chairmanship of the committee, showed a collection of fine shrubs that were available for the project. Tribute was paid to Mrs. J. H. Wells, who has been active in the planning for the garden which will be most valuable to the many students of botany and nature study in the schools and classes at the Natural History Museum. Miss Kate O. Sessions completed the evening with her usual instructive talk on new and rare plants. C. B. T.

REPORT OF THE JANUARY MEETING

January being the month to tend to the weeds of the water garden, the Floral Association meeting was devoted to a discussion of those problems. Mrs. Lyle Carringer, the speaker of the evening, gave a comprehensive talk on how to care for pools and how to arrange aquariums She displayed an attractive aquarium to illustrate her point and also to show some lovely tiny fish. Mrs. Carringer makes a specialty of raising tropical fish and enthusiastically described the many families and how to care for them. Miss Kate O. Sessions and dear friend to all the floral members, Peter Barnhart, had spent many hours collecting fine specimens of flowering shrubs which were displayed and with both well versed horticulturists discussing them and their possibilities, one felt that much knowledge was gained and the sparkling dialogue left the hearers in a very happy frame of mind. C. B. T.

NOTICE

On file and for sale, complete copies of all "California Garden" magazines.

Note the date which appears after the mailing address on the cover of your "California Garden" and when your subscription expires, please renew promptly.

A DREAM REALIZED

By Ada Perry

At the doorstep of the green maze that is Balboa park lies a desert hinterland. A myriad of strange and fantastic forms hold their stems and blossoms above the earth, providing a sight that Americans have come to value as part of the weird beauty of the southwest.

This desert is a planted one, however, created from the dream of one of San Diego's well-known citizens, Miss Kate Sessions, the beloved "Aunt Kate" whose name is linked here and elsewhere with plants and flowers.

Because "Aunt Kate" dreamed and talked and coaxed, the aloe and agave garden near the eastern street car terminus of Balboa Park was begun by the Floral Association in 1933. It is now being enlarged until the fascinating collection of desert plants covers an extensive area, one that will be instantly appreciated by visitors to the city. There are many foreign as well as native plants in the garden, making it distinct from natural scenery.

The enlarging is being done by Uncle Sam in the kindly guise of SERA. C. I. Jerabek, in charge of the work, has some laughable difficulties teaching a score of SERA men to distinguish one queer-looking plant from another, but the garden already is a place which will earn the gratitude of the city for many years.

A path directly to the left of what is now the Canadian Legion building leds to beds of kalanchoes and stapelias, borders of crassula and ledges planted to aeoniums. Red hardpan is used for edging and the newly transplanted specimens are blooming and thriving in rubbery adobe, which should teach both residents and visitors something about the adaptability of these plants.

Two more huge banks have been carefully set out with mesembryanthemums, the brilliant "flowers of the sun," which are so colorful in bloom. Some are growing at almost vertical angles. Opposite the Legion building planting is a hillock of yuccas, with agaves marching over to Park boulevard, and in the other direction under the car crossing, more pretty "mesems" creep to the street car rails. A stop is being built, which will be used later by passengers who wish to alight

(Continued on Page 6.)

New Donations to Aloe and Agave Gardens

By C. I. JERABEK

. . . *Collection Grows Larger and Larger*

The Park Department recently supplied a truck to bring in two loads of grey granite from Foster. With this material, Mr. Fred Wylie and several SERA men as helpers, constructed an attractive settee in the garden opposite the boulder containing the plaque. This seat is one of the many beautiful rock designs Mr. Wylie has constructed in San Diego and vicinity.

From the Knickerbocker Nursery:

3 Aloe arborescens, crested bloom.
3 Aloe thraski.
1 Aloe seedling hybrid of echinata.
2. Aloe hybrid.
85 Cuttings Hereroa oarians.
24 Cuttings Cephalophyllum acutum.
6 Cuttings Hymenocychus heneri.
1 Mesemb. picodorum.
1 Drosanthemum, from U. of C. No. 1494.

From McCabe Nursery:

7 Agave parviflora
1 Agave sartorii.

E. P. Bradbury, Fontana, Calif.:

1 Agave verschaffetio.

From Mrs. Paul Tuttle:

9 Portulacea afra.
1 Large Echeveria gibbiflora var. metallica.
12 Crassula multicava.
50 Sedum acre.
4 Alonium gigantea.
50 Stapelia variegata.
50 Stapelia verrucosa.
50 Stapelia incomparabilis.

From Constance Bowers Gardens:

50 Stapelia mimelis.
40 Stapelia peglerae.
35 Stapelia gigantea.
15 Stapelia schinzii.
6 Stapelia nigricans.
3 Stapelia nobilis.
1 Stapelia bella.
20 Huernia schneideriana.
3 Caralluma leendertzia.
2 Caralluma lutea.

From Mr. A. M. Weeks:

1 large Euphorbia tirucalli.

From Chas. Cass Nursery:

1 Cotyledon galpina.
3 Kalanchoe Blossfeldiana.
1 Ruchia hamata.
1 Aichroyon dichiotonum.
1 Kleinia radicans.
1 Echeveria elegans.
1 Echeveria funckii.
1 Echeveria globosa.
1 Echeveria subridgida.
1 Echeveria stolonifera.
1 Echeveria secunda glauca.
1 Echeveria semiclans.
1 Echeveria nobilis.
1 Echeveria expatria.

From Wm. Decker's Nursery:

1 Euphorbia tiracalli.
8 Sedum adolphii.
8 Sedum stahlii.
4 Umbelicus chrysanthus.
16 Kalanchoe marmorata.
6 Kalanchoe somaliensis.
3 Kalanchoe glaucens.
9 Aeonium gigantea.
9 Aeonium decorum.
3 Sedum prealtum cristatum.
12 Bryophyllum tubiflorum.
24 Bryophyllum foedtshenkoi.

From Mrs. Mary A. Greer:

25 Crassula portulacea.

From Soledad Rock and Water Gardens:

3 Aeonium glutinosum.
2 Aeonium burchardii.
2 Aeonuim sedifolum.
2 Aeonium strepsicladium.
1 Aeonium balsamiferum.
1 Aeonium canariensis.
1 Aeonium ciliatum.
1 Aeonium cuneatum.
1 Aeonium lindleyii.
1 Aeonium percarneum.
1 Aeonium tabulaeformis.
2 Crassula cultrata.
3 Crassula rubicunda.
24 Echeverias of 12 varieties.
2 Cotyledon papillaris.
1 Euphorbia caput medusae.
1 Euphorbia enneagona.
1 Euphorbia mammillaris.
1 Euphorbia splendens.
1 Euphorbia xylophylloides.
1 Kitchingia mandrakensis.
9 Bryophyllum aliciae.
6 Bryophyllum mineata.
1 Bryophyllum daigremontanum.
1 Bryophyllum laxiflora.
1 Bryophyllum rotundiflora.
200 Kleinia mandraliscae.
6 Kleinia repens.
3 Kleinia ficoides.
1 Kleinia anteuphorbium.

(Continued on Page 4.)

Stray Thoughts . . .

By PETER D. BARNHART

. . . *Winter Blooming Plants and Others*

A number of "thoughts" are in my mind at this time, which if put on paper may be interesting to readers of this Journal, and, if helpful, may add to the beauties of the gardens of this Southland. My first thought is to direct the attention of the fraternity of Gardeners, to those things that make our gardens into bowers of beauty during the winter season. "Winter" is a misnomer in the general sense of the word. Rainy season is a more suitable name for the year from November to May, though I have known the season to be rainless. Now then for a brief recital of the names of shrubs, and herbaceous plants that gladden the heart of all lovers of plant life at this season of the year. Genista monosperma — the specific name signifies, one seeded—is a veritable fountain of white fragrant flowers, when well grown. Practically a leafless shrub, the branches round, light green color. A species of caterpillar infests it during the summer, and, if the pest is not destroyed with some insecticide, it devours the flower buds. The consequence; no bloom.

Reinwardtia trigyna, a member of the Flax family, is a gorgeously beautiful low growing, evergreen shrub; the flowers golden yellow, smooth as though polished by fairy hands. Let it be understood right now, that this plant must not be confused with Linum flavum, which, Brother Bailey says, is a perennial. My experience with it leads me to say it is an annual. Anyway it is not equal to Reinwardtia. Indeed I never saw it in flower at this time of year, and flowers are what we want when winds blow cold, and women are obliged to wear clothes when out doors, if they want to be comfortable. The tribe: Dombeya is a large one, and, two species are very spectacular. D. Wallichii, produces flowers in large clusters, of a beautiful pink color, suspended on a peduncle six inches long. I never see one of those shrubs in bloom, but that my heart goes out in gratitude to God for the privilege of living in a world made so beautiful with these flowers. D. natalensis is a white flowering species, and, strange to say I never have met with but one tree. D. calantha is also a species with pink flowers, though they are in upright clusters in the axil of the leaves.

Grevillea Banksii is another subject that gladdens the heart at this season of the year. The flowers are bright red, in dense clusters above the foliage. Several species of Cassia are perpetual bloomers, even so they are not the less appreciated at this season of the year. C. corymbosa is the most spectacular, on account of its size. C.-artemisioides is a diminutive, gray-green shrub; a pretty little thing. Of the Heather tribe—Ericacea—there are a number of species difficult for the amateur to determine. I'm an amateur.

C.hamaelaucium uncinatum of the Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens; C. ciliatum, of Evans Gardens; a member of the tribe; Myrtaceae, is a shrub unsurpassed for beauty, and as a cut flower lasts for a week. It is a rare thing, recently introduced to our gardens. Here the recitation of shrubs must be brought to a close.

And now for a few Herbaceous subjects. I shall begin with Dimorphotheca, one of the Compositae tribe, D.-auriantica is a yellow flowering annual, taking care of itself, a fine feature for the fellow who would rather loaf than work. D.Ecklonis is a shrubby species, the flowers white on the upper surface; purple beneath. We have been growing it under the generic name: Arctotis. What is in a name? Everything worth knowing, of plants and people.

Another of this tribe are two herbaceous subjects; the flowers large, and very attractive. The plants are not over six inches high, the flowers on stems well above the plant. They are two inches in diameter; the flowers of one variety, (or it may be a species) are multi-colored; white, purple, and orange-brown. Those of the other variety are rose, red and yellow. A characteristic of the flowers of this tribe, is that they close up when the curtain of night is let down on the bosom of mother earth. Clivias, of the Zimmerman type are wondrously beautiful, and should be found in every garden. Solanum jasminoides, var. grandiflora is a pure white flowering variety of the Nightshade family. It is never out of bloom, climbing over shrubbery in wild abandon, in such fashion as not to hide the beauty of its fellow citizens; those on whom it must rely for support.

As a cut flower it is worthless. Solanum pyracantha is a shrubby species, its merits lie in the brilliant colored spines, and the blue green foliage.

White colored foliage plants are an attraction in any garden. Zimmerman of Carlsbad, has a species of Pyrethrum ptarmicaeflorum, an importation from Canary Islands that is so feathery in foliage that it is charming in appearance. Believe it or not, he has the only specimen that ever has come under the observation of this writer. The flowers are golden yellow, even so it is the foliage that makes it attractive. The two Centaureas: C.cineraria, and C.gymnocarpa are desirable subjects for any garden. The first named is a low growing plant, the second, if given half a chance attains to a larger size. The deeply divided foliage is its chief attraction. To appear in fine condition the dead persistent foliage must be removed. There is no great excellence, without great labor, and many a pallid cheek would take on a rosy hue if the Art of Gardening were practiced daily, by anaemic individuals; whether of the male, or the female of the species: Homo.

ENCINITAS FLOWER SHOW

The tenth Encinitas Flower Show, March 14-17, promises well. The fine winter season has been very favorable to plant life.

Garden clubs are more and more active each year and are particularly interested early in the season. Being the first flower show of the year in Southern California makes it attractive to the commercial firms, for the planting season is ahead and the exhibits are interesting, instructive and helpful to the home maker, amateur and professional gardener.

Under the same excellent manager as the fine show of last year, there is every reason to anticipate an improvement this year.

K. O. SESSIONS.

Reflections . . .

By RUTH R. NELSON

. . . *Novel Method of Staging Floral Exhibits*

Seen among the interesting flower arrangements staged at the splendid Spring Garden Show in Oakland last April, was a class judged for "reflections," as well as artistic arrangement. Each entry in this class was of course placed upon a mirror of apparently suitable dimensions; but in one arrangement only was the required reflection at all visible. The other bouquets, although very beautiful indeed, overshadowed the mirrors beneath them too completely.

One very smart black bowl upon a black mirror contained a cleverly arranged cluster of red amaryllis. But there was scarcely any reflection in the mirror under it. A lovely silver urn was filled with a spring-like combination of delphinium, pink larkspur and small yellow callas and other flowers; but in this case again the mirror was completely overshadowed.

The blue ribbon had been placed upon a simple arrangement of eucalyptus in a tall silver Buddha teapot, slender graceful stems and leaves repeating the lines of the container in a very artistic manner, while in the foreground a single dainty little tree blossom lying upon the plain round mirror, seemed to emphasize the clearness of the reflected arrangement.

Beautifully staged was another popular class which had many entries. These were arrangements for dressing tables, which were entered in pairs, some rather large for such a purpose, many quite small and all very fascinating. The judging of these was noticeably prolonged.

Many entries in the class of Japanese arrangements were also exceptionally interesting, and these were staged in a charming manner against a background of dark stained wood which threw each arrangement into picture-like relief. Several arrangements had been titled: "Memories of a Mountain Trail," "Spring Moonlight," "Light and Shadow," and so forth. These, without doubt, were the finished work of a true artist, their lovely simplicity remaining like a picture in one's memory.

CACTUS DISPLAY PLANNED FOR EXPOSITION

Further information regarding the cactus display for the California Pacific International Exposition at San Diego, has been received from Miss K. O. Sessions, who writes:

"The permanent cactus display that is to be established on the west side of the New Mexico building in Balboa Park will be the first general display in the open ground throughout the year in the United States of America, or even the world. This display will keep on growing and will be well cared for in Balboa Park. Everyone should enjoy making at least one contribution of at least three of one species to help the cause The various states will have individual displays of their native varieties. Due credit will be given every donor and a list of species planted will be published."

NEW DONATIONS TO ALOE AND AGAVE GARDEN

(Continued from Page 2.)

1 Kleinia radicans major.
1 Olivianthus elegans.
4 Portulacaria afra.
50 Mesemb. repens.
1 Sedum palmeri.
1 Cyanotis somalicae.

From Balboa Park Nursery:

7 Samuela carnerosana.
3 Dasyluion.
12 Yucca pendula.
1 Dracena australis.
3 Dracena draco.
1 Agave cantala.
50 Aloe cilaris.
100 Aloe humilis.
3 Cotyledon orbiculata.
6 Aeonium arborescens.
6 Aeonium arborescens var. atro-sanguiene.
3 Sedum prealtum.

C. I. JERABEK.

WILD FLOWERS

If you are keen about wild flowers, you will, practically speaking, turn handsprings over the huge volume filled with magnificent colored plates (three hundred and sixty-four of them), which Homer D. House has recently given us. (Wild Flowers: MacMillan Co.)

If the board of regents of the state of New York had not loosened up a bit and loaned these illustrations, as well as many in black and white, this imposing book would never have been possible. The originals of these superb pictures are in the State Museum at Albany, N. Y., and were first used in a state publication on wild flowers.

Don't expect to find many of our California wild flowers in it. But if you are one of those who once roamed the moist woods and lush meadows of the eastern states, you can develop a fine nostalgia as you revive memories of the days before you had met the blossoms of our own slopes and chaparral. Also, many genera have representatives throughout the United Sstates, and if the species are not exactly the same, many are so similar as to give excellent clues to anyone trying to identify the flowers closer to our present homes.

The book costs $7.50 and is worth a great deal more. If you cannot have it in your home, make your library buy it, and go there sometimes for a reminiscent look at hepaticas, bloodroot, anemones and the many lovely violets of wood and field.

LESTER ROWNTREE.
Carmel, California.

FUCHSIA SOCIETY MEETING

The annual meeting of the American Fuchsia Society will be held in the assembly hall of the San Francisco Public Library in the Civic Center at 2:30 P. M. on Sunday, February 17. Take elevator to the third floor.

Annual dues, one dollar, are now payable to the treasurer.

As so few had the opportunity of enjoying Dr. E. O. Essig's lecture illustrated with colored slides, which was given last year, he has kindly consented to repeat it under more favorable conditions.

Street Trees . . .

. . . *Their Selection and Care*

By ERNEST BRAUNTON

Now that trees are being planted, the ever-recurring question arises: What is the best street tree? This at once brings up another question, equally as important: Why do we plant street trees?

In the old days of Dobbin and the buggy, shade was desirable in hot weather. In some sections a deciduous tree was favored to allow quick drying of muddy roads. Now both points are swept aside. The modern auto travels so fast it keeps the occupants cool and our universally paved streets and highways know no mud. At last we have arrived at a period where we may plant for the best reason only: Ornament.

No sort of tree will please all. An individual tree may often prove beautiful where a row of the same would not, owing mainly to a lack of uniformity of growth. The carob, Ceratonia siliqua, is an almost perfect tree in appearance and worthy of wide planting. But the rate of growth of a row of the trees ranges from the pace of a snail to that of a greyhound. About the third year after planting something like one-fourth of the number should be replaced, for they never will assume arboreal stature.

The live oak, Quercus agrifolia, is doubtless the best ornamental tree we have that is suitable to our climate. If all of these grew alike, not many other sorts would be planted on streets. As in the case of the carob, the dwarfs should be removed at the end of three years. Another good oak is Quercus suber, the cork oak. Then comes one from the Southern States, Quercus virginiana. It does not endure desert heat as well as the other two, but for damp sections it is an ideal small evergreen tree.

The pepper tree is still first in the affections of many and for inland streets and gardens, especially where black scales are not a menace, it is about the best of all trees for any purpose. The camphor tree is another splendid one that is troubled with the scale insects that infest citrus trees —the only reason for not placing it near the head of the list for coastal sections. It thrives best in damper atmosphere.

Nearly every city and town in Southern California has an excess of the dull-colored blackwood, Acacia melanoxylon, the most unattractive of the family. Even in flower it is not decorative. No more should be planted. The silver wattle, Acacia dealbata, and several others are preferable to the funereal or somber blackwood.

Some very good lanes of jacaranda are to be found and when in bloom it stands first of all trees. It is drought-resistant and quite at home with us. A few country roads have sections of these trees that in blossom compel the admiration of all. For easterners with a yearn for eastern trees, we have an evergreen elm, Ulmus sempervirens. It is not a lofty tree, as elms go, but second in beauty to no other elm. Only where subjected to many heavy frosts does it lose its leaves, but it immediately sends forth a new crop.

The tree that has saved California from bareness, the most dominant object in our landscapes, is the eucalypt. For country roadsides and where the soil is deep and free it still is unsurpassed in grandeur when of age. To remove all this State has would rob California of its most distinguished ornament. It is all of tree life that many rural sections possess. Not the least of its uses is for highway planting. Where the parkings are wide, and where the soil is deep and easily permeated, there are places in cities where superb specimens of eucalypts six or more feet in diameter still adorn the streets. There are several satisfactory species aside from the red-flowering, of which the manna gum, E. viminalis is one of the best.

Among the desirable points in street trees uniformity is especially desirable. It is not a question of having every tree alike, but having all grow to about the same height and the same in breadth of top or crown. This is not all of the story, however, for telephone poles are very uniform in general appearance. What is far more necessary than uniformity of growth is uniformity of kind.

Every street should be planted with only one species of tree. This gives a

(Continued on Page 8)

Evening!

Fragrance!

IS YOUR Garden Waiting for the Magic of KIM Lights?

Kim garden lighting equipment is designed to enhance its surroundings — Harmonizing with them by day—Illuminating them at night.

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Garden Club Federation News

California Day, Hotel Ambassador, Los Angeles.

It will be the privilege of all California Garden Club Federation Members in good standing, to attend the meeting of the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Saturday, April 13th, and greet the garden club visitors from out-of-State. There will be no registration fee for such members attending on this day only—but you are earnestly requested to register in advance of this date sending at the same time the cost of luncheon or dinner as desired to the separate California Registration Chairman Mrs. Alex Mueller, 1438 Le Grande Terrace, San Pedro, Calif.

Please state, too, whether you are coming by train or motor, as a train ticket receipt turned in to the Chairman of Ttransportation will help to make up the number of 100 train travelers necessary to obtain the round-trip fare of one and one-third for our Eastern visitors. For those wishing to be counted among the twenty delegates and alternates for California and attend on any or all of the *other* days, there will be a registration fee of $15.00 payable in advance to Mrs. Ben S. Hunter, 901 Longwood Avenue. Chairman of Registration, Los Angeles.

In the morning the business meeting of the National Council will take place, when the reports of the officers will be given and the election of incoming officers held. This will be a splendid opportunity for all California members to learn first-hand of the activities of the country-wide organization of which they are a part.

Following luncheons Miss Charlotte M. Hoak of South Pasadena will deliver an address illustrated with slides on "California's Contribution to the Gardens of the World." Exhibits made by all of the State federations, as well as a few local exhibits, will be held in the Court of States.

In the late afternoon, an executive meeting of the new administrators will be held. The official dinner will take place at 7:30 P. M. in the Ambassador Hotel. Mrs. Leonard Slosson, State President, will give the opening remarks, to which Mrs. F. Joel Swift, National President, will respond and an introduction of the newly elected officers will follow.

Then there will be an address by the guest speaker.

The Sixth Annual Spring Garden Show of California will be held in the Exposition Building, Oakland, April 4 to 7, 1935. The formal Sponsor's Night will be held on Wednesdav. We understand that the theme will be "English Gardens."

District No. 4 Meeting

A meeting of District No. 4 was held on Monday, December 10th, at the Women's Athletic Club, San Francisco. Ten of the fifteen clubs in the district were represented. There were reports on the semi-annual meeting of the California Garden Club Federation in Santa Barbara, and on conservation. Mrs. Helen Van Pelt reported on the Marin Garden Center and the advisability of such an organization in Golden Gate Park. The entertainment of the national visitors of the post-meeting trip in San Francisco was discussed.

Mr. James West told of the aims of the Downtown Association of San Francisco to make the projected fair, celebrating the completion of the bay bridges in 1937, an outstanding horticultural exhibit. The Federation lists of "Horticultural Consultants" "Speakers for District 4," and "Lectures and Lantern Slides" were given to each club.

After a showing of autochrome slides by Mrs. William Van Antwerp and Mrs. Lawrence Scott, the meeting was adjourned for luncheon.

Mrs. John F. Forbes,
District Director.

District Meeting No. 2

A meeting of District No. 2 was held December 15th at the home of the District Director in Beverly Hills.

Reports were made by the State and district chairmen, and by the presidents of the clubs in the district. Three new district chairmen and a new Federation librarian were introduced.

Plans were made for an Early Spring Flower Show which is to held in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Moye Stephens, 920 Kings Road, Hollywood, March 16th and 17th. Dr. Dorothy C. Smyley, 334 No. Carmeline, Brentwood Heights, has charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Morgan A. Dawson, District Chairman of Conservation, made an excellent report.

Mrs. Slosson, State President, told of the plans for the National Meeting in Los Angeles. She urged early registration by mail for all those who wished to attend the whole four-day meeting, the registration fee of which is $15.00. Delegates and alternates for California will be chosen from these registrants to make the widest possible distribution of representatives from over the State.

Mrs. S. A. Guiberson, Jr.,
District Director.

A DREAM REALIZED

(Continued from Page 2.)

in the garden of fascinating shapes and blooms.

The garden proper, started two years ago, is growing lustily. The paths have been graded and a stone seat built at the lower central point. Opposite it is the plate with Miss Sessions' name on it and that of the Floral Association, with which she has been since she and others founded it. Little succulents peep from the crevices of the stone and all around are green and gold and salmon-orange aloe blossoms, raided and defended in turn by zealous little humming birds, who love the place. Human visitors will love it, too. The garden is fast earning the rating of one of the city's major attractions.—(San Diego Union.)

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Our Native Ceanothus

By K. O. SESSIONS

. . . Recent Rains Benefit These Native Beauties

The very dry winter of 1933 and '34 and the very long summer of 1934 were very trying on all growth, and the native ceanothus at my home on Soledad Terrace, Pacific Beach, were very shabby and dry-looking, and I feared for their life in one row, the C. arborea by the roadside. Arborea being a native of the exposed coast of one of the Santa Barbara Islands should naturally need more moist air than the varieties native on our local mesas and interior hillsides. None had really shed any foliage, but it was faded and looked sick. Our first early rain, though not a heavy one, made the plants take on a changed look. The C. verucosa brightened up immediately and the C. interegimus began to stiffen and the foliage color changed. The very latest spreading Ceanothus arborea and the Standard or tree-trained specimen were very much brighter looking. The continuous rains have worked wonders for all the specimens, and even the late-flowering and aristocratic C. cyaneus is full of flower buds, while the arboreas are bursting into the finest flowering condition I have ever seen.

There are decidedly two types of flower sprays—one very thin and pale, a real azure blue, and the other a light blue and more compact. I have two plants of C. arborea hybrids, grown from cuttings from a fine specimen in Walter Merrill's yard. It was raised by Theodore Payne's Nursery in Los Angeles. It is a dark blue and blooms earlier than the true arborea. The interregimus is most promising and the spikes are so stiff and so long. These native shrubs are certainly able to endure long dry seasons and to respond wonderfully when the rains do come, and we must endeavor to plant them more generously. The C. verrucosa is such a fine shapely shrub, so rounded and regular, its foliage of very small dark green leaves, and it is now a veritable snowball of blossoms.

A few miles of this shrub on either side of our Coast Highway from Torrey Pines northward should be carefully planted. If means are limited, then plow a three-foot strip and then plant the seed in the early fall. Much of it would certainly grow. The interregimus should also be planted in the same way. C. cyaneus has been blooming continuously in one garden from May, 1933. It is a very large and symmetrical shrub, having many shoots from the ground rather than being a branching tree. The foliage is an extra glossy dark green. This plant has had a very little water through the late summer. A plant in my garden without any water or care died, and another looked rather forlorn, but is fine and thrifty now, and full of buds.

Mrs. Greer's garden has a large ceanothus cyaneus that has some blossoms all through the year and an abundance in spring and early summer.

The Rhus integrifolia and the native cherry, Prunus ilicfolia, have shown no suffering for the want of water last summer and fall. When the bountiful crop of seed is ripe this summer and early fall, a good supply should be gathered and an effort made for plants to be grown in quantities for highway planting. Also a generous planting of seed in favored locations would be desirable. A seedling plant has the best chance for development, its life is really insured by Mother Nature. The nurseries that raise native plants should be more generously patronized and encouraged.

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What Happens in My Garden . . .

By LOUISE BEEBE WILDY ***. . . A Review***

(The MacMillan Company, New York, 1935—$3.00)

We are always glad to greet another of Mrs. Wilder's unfailingly pleasant books. Though they deal with gardens, they all have a sort of wild charm to them, and yet, to borrow slightly from one of her own metaphors, they are never woolly! This one might be described a sort of sequel to "Adventures in a Suburban Garden," as it is in much the same style and deals mainly with plants not treated in the former volume. A good many little groups of plants come in for chapters all their own. There is a delightful chapter on snowdrops, one on the celandine of poesy, the very name of which "makes a song in the mind as do Violet, Kingcup, and Cowslip," two chapters on irises, a very valuable chapter on the thymes, one on alliums, one on meadow-rues, one on the mulleins, one on clematis, *und so weiter* as the Germans say. We must further mention the chapter devoted to "that magic hue we call blue . . . true blue, not vague lilacs or sad purples but bright, pure blue. We have but to look about us and note how the blue sky above brings out all the latent delicacy as well as the strength of the frail vernal harmony to know how much this celestial hue will do for us at garden level." With such we tritely agree and more; still if *Scilla sibirica* seems to Mrs. Wilder "surely the bluest thing in all nature," we wonder in inward parenthesis whether she can ever have seen a Tecophilaea. Even Tecophilaea, arrayed in glory as it is, does not quite attain Spectrum Blue, —is therefore not quite a true blue, but is warmed with just the gentlest suffusion of indigo or violet. As to *Scilla sibirica,* the plant must vary and vary, for we can not forget that none other than Farrer found it "of such an awful squalling blue that it brings the water into one's eyes to look at it." Mrs. Wilder is fond of mulleins, paying rich tribute to *Verbascum olympicum,* that noblest mullein of them all, which she is surely right in commending as "a cure for commonplaceness in any garden" Your reviewer has been indeed happy to read her quite different tribute to that common but neglected little western wilding, *Malvastrum coccineum,* but how did she happen to miss mention of its delicious fragrance, spicily redolent of heliotrope?

Some may be surprised to find a garden writer of such acknowledged good taste so optimistic regarding present-day American rock-gardens She surely has not been a witness of what some of us can accomplish in that line here in Southern California or the fount of even her ample charity might fail.

The book is handsomely illustrated in half-tone and attractively bound in gray-green canvas. S. S. B.

Tell Him Now . . .

If with pleasure you are viewing any
work a man is doing,
If you like him or you love him, let
him know,
Don't withhold appreciation till the
parson makes oration,
And he lies with snowy lilies on his
brow,
For no matter how you shout it, he
won't really care about it,
He won't know what kind words
you have said.
If you think some praise is due him,
now's the time to slip it to him,
For he cannot read his tombstone
when he's dead!

More than fame and more than money
is the comment kind and sunny
And the hearty warm approval of
a friend,
For it gives to life a savor, makes you
richer, stronger, braver,
Gives you heart and hope and courage to the end.
If he earns your praise bestow it, if
you like him let him know it,
Let the word of true encouragement
be said.
Do not wait till life is over and he's
underneath the clover,
For he cannot read his tombstone
when he's dead.

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

STREET TREES

(Continued from Page 5)

simplicity and dignity that increases with each additional block or mile. Next to this comes the question of distance apart for trees. Every tree should have space to develop its individuality and should allow passers-by to get good views of the near and distant landscapes .The modern tendency is to plant much farther apart than formerly.

All property should be planted to street trees before it is accepted by the city for sale in lots, the kind of trees to be first approved by the city. Then it should be made little short of a capital crime to remove one of them without official permission. Our street trees laws are not sufficiently drastic, although better than once were. Some day we shall take the parkings away from the individual owners and maintain trees and ground covers over the entire city.

Few soils are so friable that loosening is unnecssary. The larger the hole dug, the better will the tree be, at any age. Few parkways are wide enough, so need of preparation is great. Some day we will decree that all parkways in strictly residential districts shall be twenty or more feet wide. We live too close together now.

With a paved street on one side and concrete sidewalk on the other, an ambitious young street tree is thwarted in its growth at the very outset. Dig holes both wide and deep. Then if there are rocks, throw them out. If the soil is very heavy or very sandy, mix with a liberal supply of stable manure. Put at least six inches of manure in the bottom of the hole; the roots will go there to feed upon it.

I am still harping on my old slogan, which I have proclaimed in every city and town in our Southland: "If I had but a dollar to spend for a tree, I would rather put in a 10-cent tree in a 90-cent hole than a 90-cent tree in a 10-cent hole."—Los Angeles Times.)

FEW BIRDS MISBEHAVE

During half a century as the wild-life service of the government, the Biological Survey has found it desirable to publish instructions for control of only a small list of birds. These include certain hawks and owls, crows, magpies, pinyon jays, stralings, and English sparrows.

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